



Voting Information News

February 2005 & Vol. 15, No. 2

Issue Highlights:

U.S. State Governors	1
Your Senior Service Voting Representative	2
Your Service Voting Action Officer	2
Change of Address - Your Responsibility!	3
Voting Residence Guidelines for Overseas Citizens	4
Special Primary Election California 5 th District	4

Voting Assistance Officers

"To Do" This Month:

☒ Share your best practices by sending them up the chain or directly to FVAP. Help others improve their voting assistance program by learning from your successes. Look at your voting assistance program, processes and procedures. You will find that there are some things you are doing very well with excellent results that others could use to improve awareness and participation in the absentee voting process.

☒ Be sure your installation or Embassy/Consulate telephone information operator has your name and telephone number for referrals.

A roundup of voting news from the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) for voters, potential voters and those who assist voters.

U.S. State Governors

Following is a listing of State, Commonwealth, and Territory Governors and Chief Executives, including their political party affiliation. The list includes the 13 new governors elected during the 2004 general elections. The states holding 2005 gubernatorial races are also indicated.

Source for Governors: National Governor's Association website, www.nga.org.

Alabama Gov. Bob Riley (R)	Kentucky Gov. Ernie Fletcher (R)	Oklahoma Gov. Brad Henry (D)
Alaska Gov. Frank Murkowski (R)	Louisiana Gov. Kathleen Blanco (D)	Oregon Gov. Ted Kulongoski (D)
American Samoa Gov. Togiola Tulafono (D)	Maine Gov. John Baldacci (D)	Pennsylvania Gov. Edward Rendell (D)
Arizona Gov. Janet Napolitano (D)	Maryland Gov. Robert Ehrlich (R)	Puerto Rico Gov. Aníbal Acevedo-Vilá (PDP)
Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee (R)	Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney (R)	Rhode Island Gov. Don Carcieri (R)
California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger (R)	Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm (D)	South Carolina Gov. Mark Sanford (R)
Colorado Gov. Bill Owens (R)	Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty (R)	South Dakota Gov. Mike Rounds (R)
Connecticut Gov. M. Jodi Rell (R)	Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour (R)	Tennessee Gov. Phil Bredesen (D)
Delaware Gov. Ruth Ann Minner (D)	Missouri Gov. Matt Blunt (R)	Texas Gov. Rick Perry (R)
District of Columbia Mayor Anthony Williams (D)	Montana Gov. Brian Schweitzer (D)	Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman (R)
Florida Gov. Jeb Bush (R)	Nebraska Gov. Dave Heineman (R)	Vermont Gov. James H. Douglas (R)
Georgia Gov. Sonny Perdue (R)	Nevada Gov. Kenny Guinn (R)	Virginia* Gov. Mark Warner (D) *Election: 8 November 2005
Guam Gov. Felix Camacho (R)	New Hampshire Gov. John Lynch (D)	Virgin Islands Gov. Charles Turnbull (D)
Hawaii Gov. Linda Lingle (R)	New Jersey* Gov. Richard Codey (D) *Election: 8 November 2005	Washington Gov. Christine Gregoire (D)
Idaho Gov. Dirk Kempthorne (R)	New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson (D)	West Virginia Gov. Joe Manchin III (D)
Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich (D)	New York Gov. George Pataki (R)	Wisconsin Gov. Jim Doyle (D)
Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels (R)	North Carolina Gov. Michael Easley (D)	Wyoming Gov. Dave Freudenthal (D)
Iowa Gov. Thomas Vilsack (D)	North Dakota Gov. John Hoeven (R)	
Kansas Gov. Kathleen Sebelius (D)	Ohio Gov. Bob Taft (R)	



**"To Do" This Month
(continued):**

☑ Inventory and replenish your stock of voting materials that were consumed in last year's elections. Federal Postcard Applications (FPCA), SF-76, Federal Write-in Absentee Voting Ballots (FWAB), SF-186, and *Voting Assistance Guides* are available through your normal supply distribution channels. (The *2006-07 Voting Assistance Guide* will be available this Fall.)

☑ Make sure you are on the distribution list for FVAP *News Releases* and this newsletter, which is available by email, regular mail, or both and, on the FVAP Website. Because of their time-sensitive nature, *News Releases* are distributed only by e-mail and on the FVAP Website. To be added or to change your information on the distribution list send email to: vote@fvap.ncr.gov

☑ We encourage you to make this VIN available to all the people that you are assisting. If you receive the VIN by email we recommend that it be forwarded to all in your command or organization. Email will save both paper and time in disseminating important voting information.

Your Senior Service Voting Representative

The Senior Service Voting Representative (SSVR) is responsible for Service-wide implementation of the respective voting assistance programs. There is one SSVR for each military service and the Department of State. The SSVR appoints a Service Voting Action Officer (see article on this page) to administer the voting program for that Service. In the military, the SSVR is a uniformed officer of general or flag grade. In the Department of State the SSVR is an Assistant Secretary of State.

ARMY:

COL (P) Eric Porter
The Adjutant General
Human Resources Command

NAVY:

RADM John W. Townes, III
Deputy Chief of Naval Personnel

AIR FORCE:

Brig Gen (S) William A. Chambers
Director for Learning and Force Development

MARINE CORPS:

MajGen Timothy Ghormley
Director, Manpower Plans and Policy Division

COAST GUARD:

CAPT Kenneth D. Forslund
Commandant (G-WPM)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE:

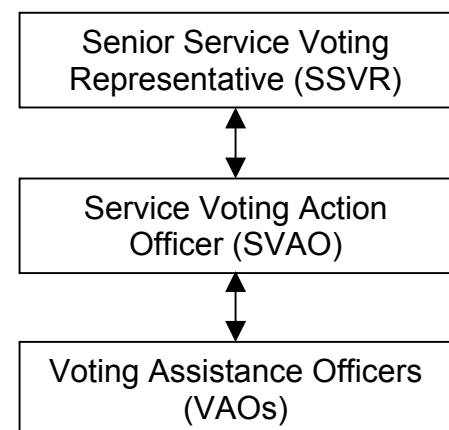
Ambassador Maura A. Harty
Assistant Secretary
Bureau of Consular Affairs

Did you know? The SSVR also manages the voting program for Reserve component members who have been called to active Federal service. The Chief/Director of each Reserve component coordinates with the SSVR and the Director of FVAP to maintain a contingency absentee voting program for the deployed National Guard and Reserve units and personnel. ☑

Your Service Voting Action Officer

Service Voting Action Officers (SVAOs) are an important resource for Voting Assistance Officers (VAOs). There is one SVAO for each military service and the Department of State. SVAOs work within the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and the Department of State, to facilitate the duties of VAOs in military installations and at Embassies/Consulates worldwide. They are knowledgeable of the particular internal communications and distribution channels of their organizations and, for this reason, play a critical role in the voting assistance chain.

If a VAO has a question about obtaining supplies, or about the voting process in general, which he or she cannot answer locally, or by visiting the FVAP's website at: www.fvap.gov, the next recourse is the SVAO for his or her particular organization (see contact information on page 3). For example, if a VAO is having difficulties obtaining supplies of the Federal Post Card Application or the *Voting Assistance Guide*, or any of the other materials necessary to carry out his or her duties effectively, the SVAO should be contacted. ☑



Change of Address – Your Responsibility!

It is the citizens' responsibility to notify their local election official of changes in their mailing address (where the citizen needs their ballot mailed). Many local election officials report that absentee voting materials mailed to citizens are returned to them marked "Address Unknown." This problem may be caused by changes in duty stations or overseas residence addresses.

Use a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA), SF 76. FVAP highly recommends that the FPCA be completed in its entirety and submitted every year. In addition to informing the local election official of the citizen's current mailing address, submitting the FPCA will register or confirm the citizen's registration, and acts as a request for absentee ballots for any elections to be held that year.

When completing the FPCA enter the following additional information to notify the local election official of your address change. In Item 4 (Mail Absentee Ballot To) enter "NEW ADDRESS" in the top of this box. In Item 7 (Remarks) write your previous address and enter "OLD ADDRESS". As a result, the FPCA will serve as a simultaneous absentee ballot request and a change of address form for voting purposes.

Remember, the FPCA must be properly completed and legible in order for it to be processed by the local election official. Completion instructions for each state can be found in Chapter 3 of the *2004-05 Voting Assistance Guide* (also on the FVAP website at www.fvap.gov.)

A second option to indicate a change in address is writing a letter to your local election official with your name, date of birth, and both new and old addresses. The new

address is where you would like to receive your ballot.

A third option (only available on the card stock version) is to use the small, perforated card on the FPCA entitled "Note To Election Official". Although the election officials normally use this, the voter may use it as a change of address form. (Note: exercising this option will only change the address in the registrar's rolls and will not serve as a registration application or request for an absentee ballot.)

To use this method the citizen should separate this card from the rest of the form, and then write on the top of the card "CHANGE OF ADDRESS." The citizen should clearly indicate his or her name and date of birth, and should label both old and new address somewhere on the face of the card, ignoring the words preprinted on the card. The card must then be signed and dated in the spaces indicated on the bottom of the card. The card should then be turned over and addresses should also be provided.

Note: The FPCA and the small card do not require postage if mailed within the U.S. mails.

When using any of the options provided, it is important to include a voter registration number or Social Security Number and any further information that can help the local election official properly identify you.

Submit an address change early enough so that you have enough time to receive, vote your ballot, and return it to the local election official to meet state deadlines. Addresses for local election officials can also be found in Chapter 3 of the *Guide* (at www.fvap.gov) at the end of the instruction section for each state. ☒

Voting Action Officers

Department of State: Office of Overseas Citizens Services

Chief VAO: Mr. Jack Markey, **tel:** (202) 736-4937, **fax:** (202) 647-6201, **E-mail:** markeyjd@state.gov
Deputy VAO: Ms. Linda Hoover, **tel:** (202) 647-5435, **fax:** (202) 647-6201, **E-mail:** hooverlr@state.gov

Service Voting Action Officers

U.S. Dept. of the Army: Mr. James Davis **tel:** (703) 325-4530 **DSN:** 221-4530; **fax:** (703) 325-4532
DSN fax: 221-4532; **E-mail:** davisj@hoffman.army.mil,
http: <http://www.vote.army.mil> or **https:** <https://www.vote.army.mil>

U.S. Dept. of the Navy: LT Bill Danzi **tel:** 1-866-U-ASK-NPC (827-5672); **DSN:** 882-4606, **fax:** (901) 874-2054,
DSN fax: 882-2054; **E-mail:** MILL_navyvote@navy.mil, **http:** <http://www.persnet.navy.mil/nvap>

U.S. Dept. of the Air Force: Lt. Col. Lee Shick **tel:** (210) 565-2338 (Mr. John Lowrance), **toll free:** 1-866-229-7074 (select option 4, then 6 from menu), **DSN:** 665-4369; **fax:** (210) 565-2543, **DSN fax:** 665-2543;
E-mail: afpc/dpsfvotingpgmdlist@randolph.af.mil;

U.S. Marine Corps: GySgt Kenneth B. Warford **tel:** (703) 784-9511, **DSN:** 278-9511; **fax:** (703) 784-9827,
DSN fax: 278-9827; **E-mail:** kenneth.warford@usmc.mil
https: https://lnweb1.manpower.usmc.mil/manpower/mi/mra_ofct.nsf/mrp/Voting+Home

U.S. Coast Guard: YNCS Lori McNaught **tel:** (202)-267-1636, **fax:** (202) 267-4823;
E-mail: LMcNaught@comdt.uscg.mil, **http:** http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-w/g-wp/g-wpm/g-wpm-1/VotingAssistance/Voting_Assistance.htm

All of the above can also be reached through the DoD Voting Information Center and the FVAP Website.

Federal Voting Assistance Program

Department of Defense
1155 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC
20301-1155

PHONE:
(703) 588-1584
DSN 425-1584

FAX
(703) 696-1352
DSN 426-1352

VOTING INFORMATION
CENTER:
(703) 588-1343
DSN 425-1343

TOLL FREE:
1-800-438-VOTE (8683)

Visit our website for
international toll-free phone
and fax numbers.

E-MAIL:
vote@fvap.ncr.gov

Comments or suggestions on
this newsletter are welcome.

Website:
www.fvap.gov

Vote!

Voting Residence Guidelines: Overseas Citizens

The following general guidelines are for **citizens residing outside the United States not affiliated with the Federal government** to determine their state of legal residence for voting purposes.

- ✓ "Legal state of residence" for voting purposes is the state where you last resided immediately prior to your departure from the United States. This right extends to overseas citizens even though they may no longer own property or have other ties to their last state of residence and their intent to return to that state may be uncertain.
- ✓ Eligibility to vote and residency requirement is determined by the state. Your right to vote in your state and determination of voting precinct depend on your physical residence while you were in the state.
- ✓ Only 12 states, to date, provide exemption to the physical presence law for UOCAVA citizens overseas. These states allow eligible U.S. citizens who have never resided in the U.S. to register and vote

where a parent would be eligible to vote. See the *2004-2005 Voting Assistance Guide* (www.fvap.gov) for specific information.

- ✓ The *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)* of 1986 provides that exercising the right to vote in elections for **Federal offices** under the *Act* should not affect for purposes of any Federal, state or local tax, the residence or domicile of a person exercising such right.
- ✓ Voting in **Federal offices only** may not be used as the sole basis to determine residency for the purposes of imposing state and local taxes. If you claim a particular state as your residence and have other ties with that state in addition to voting, then you may be liable for state and local taxation, depending upon that particular state law. Appendix E of the *Guide* contains information on potential tax obligations. Consult your legal counsel or tax adviser with specific questions.

If you have further questions that cannot be answered locally, please contact the FVAP directly. ☑

Announcing Special Primary Election for California Residents of the 5th District:

On Tuesday, March 8, 2005, there will be a special primary election in the California 5th Congressional District to fill the seat of Congressman Robert Matsui. All members of the U.S. Uniformed Services, their family members and citizens residing outside the U.S. who are California residents from the 5th District should request a ballot for this special primary election by completing and submitting an FPCA, SF-76, as soon as possible, if you have not done so already in calendar year 2005. See January 18, 2005 Voting News Release #1 at www.fvap.gov. ☑

Moving? Send an FPCA to notify your local election official. Also, send us an email so that you and your replacement can continue receiving this newsletter.

Federal Voting Assistance Program
Department of Defense
1155 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1155



U.S. Postage Paid
39 USC 3406

PAR AVION

OFFICIAL VOTING INFORMATION MATERIAL – FIRST CLASS MAIL

NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IN THE U.S. MAIL – DMM E080